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through its anthropological and sociological significance, to the detailed problems involved in international law and international peace.

The first session of the conference was devoted to such fundamental considerations as were involved in defining the purpose of the conference. At the second session, environment, language, customs and race differences and race types furnished the topics. The third session was devoted to race problems, as they presented themselves in the different countries represented at the conference. International finance, immigration, science and art formed the topics of the fourth session. The fifth and sixth sessions were devoted to the relation of modern progressive thought to the racial problems. Included in a discussion of international racial ethics were traffic in intoxicants and opium and the position of the American Negro and the American Indian. At the two final sessions positive suggestions for promoting inter-racial friendliness were discussed.

Despite the divergence in topic, the spirit of the conference, though somewhat academic was progressive. The existence of such a conference indicates a rapid disintegration of antique racial prejudice. Its work should constitute an important step in the upbuilding in inter-racial good-will.

Wiley, Harvey W. *Foods and their Adulteration.* Pp. xii, 641. Price, \$4.00.

Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1911.

From this second edition Dr. Wiley has omitted his discussion of the national pure food law and its interpretation, writing instead a generous section on infants' and invalids' foods, together with a discussion of methods for detecting food adulterations. His discussion of infant feeding constitutes an excellent source for the students of infant mortality. His entire work will commend itself now, as heretofore, as the thoughtful product of a careful student.

REVIEWS

Abbott, F. F. *A History and Description of Roman Political Institutions.*

Pp. viii, 451. Price \$1.50. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1911.

This book is intended to serve as an introduction to the study of Roman political institutions, especially for the student of Roman life and literature. The subject is treated from both a historical and a descriptive standpoint. Part I deals with the monarchical period; Part II with the republican; Part III with the imperial. Each of these periods is then subdivided under two heads. First a chronological account of the origin and development of Roman political institutions shows the inter-relation of the parts and gives a final picture of the Roman constitution as an organic whole. Then a description of each institution gives a clear idea of its structure and function. The treatment of imperial officials and of judicial procedure is especially good.

This volume will prove particularly valuable to those who are working in the border land between history and languages. The teacher of Latin will find it useful in correlating the study of the ancient language with the

development of those institutions whose influence is powerful even in modern life. The teacher of history will find it an excellent outline of the characteristic institutional development of those people who contributed most to modern governmental ideas and methods, yet whose work is usually taken for granted, rather than studied and understood.

The chief criticism that may be urged against the book is that its brevity gives somewhat distorted impressions of certain institutions, and necessitates somewhat dogmatic statements regarding controverted points. These faults are offset by marginal references to sources and by extended bibliographies by whose aid the reader may easily find more extended discussions of the points at issue.

An appendix contains well selected examples of senatorial documents, actions of the popular assemblies, edicts and inscriptions together with brief passages from Latin writers dealing with political institutions.

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Bonar, James. *Distributing Elements in the Study and Teaching of Political Economy.* Pp. 145. Price, \$1.00. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1911.

The publication of this volume puts in permanent form the five lectures delivered by the author during April, 1910, before the Economic Seminary of Johns Hopkins University. The two following paragraphs from the preface throw light on the nature of the work:

"As the title suggests, they [the lectures] are discourses not on economic error in general; but on the more subtle fallacies which are apt to invade the reasoning of trained economists in spite of learning and discipline.

"Such errors creep in from a popular political philosophy (Lecture I), from want of any political philosophy (II), from mistaken aversion to theory (III), from the shortcomings of common or technical language (IV), and from the wrong handling of distinctions of time (V)."

In the first lecture, entitled "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," the author maintains that "without fraternity in the form of organization of smaller groups than nations, it will be difficult to preserve what was long the most precious feature of the economic world in English speaking America,—the independent labourer." . . . "With due care and pains on the part of both of you [Canada and the United States] there need not be any proletariat at all." . . . "In a proletariat there is little liberty and little true fraternity; there is something like an equality of suffering and degradation. If the watchwords would keep us mindful of this great duty, it would be well to hear their music every day, even in our study."

In the second lecture, entitled "Government is Founded on Opinion," it is pointed out how frequently public opinion is unscientific and needs enlightenment. "If the economist should not be guided by public opinion, he should try to guide it, recognizing that error is possible which he must help to remove."

The third lecture dissects the phrase so frequently heard, "It may be so